

Senator Joyce Fairbairn School Council Meeting

Held in the conference room at SJF

January 23, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

Attendance: Sharon Willms-Laing, Raj Mathur, Craig DeJong, Stephanie Beekman, Skye Curtis, Fiona Kirkby, Colleen Giesbrecht, Grayson Michel, Shannon Francis

1. Town Hall- School based update -Sharon

- Feb 6, 6:30-8:30pm
- Six grade 8 students volunteered to participate as well as 4-5 parent volunteers and 1 community member
- Online survey will be available in addition to meeting

2. Athletics Update-Raj

- Basketball winding down, hosting games this week and weekend, then playoffs last week of January. G-club had 3 on 3 tournament.
- Badminton starts early February, grade level teams and club option. Details to come.

3. Staffing Update- Craig

- New admin assistant- Dawn Lavine joined this week
- Hiring one education assistant, in process

4. Bussing/Bell Times- Raj

- Next year will offer bussing for kids living within 1km for grades 1-6, 2km for 7-12, by road (currently 2.4km). Implementation plan to be determined. Many more buses will be required. Bell times determined by bussing

schedule; buses are often serving 2 schools but likely SJF will bell schedule will remain as it is. School division is hoping to continue to cover cost of bussing for students/families.

5. Assurance Survey- Parents and Students, grade 7s

- Hoping to increase parent response by offering draw for VISA gift card for those who participate

6. District School Council Update (If applicable)- Skye

- 3 parent reps approved for policy advisory committee, 3 meetings since. Policies reviewed by number, but might not address policies in most in need of review; looking at policy for choosing what policy to review. Discussing to remove outdated or irrelevant policies. Committee provides recommendation to school board and board makes final decision.
- Looking for feedback from Town Hall in February to guide policy review
- New section of division website for policy feedback – specific policies open for feedback at certain times. Link emailed to parents Jan 18. Skye suggested including current policies under review in school newsletter with link to website.
- SJF parent council to remain is ASCA

7. Book Club Discussion

- “Hold onto your Kids” by Dr. Gordon Neufeld, Skye to send out email to school council and parents about meeting time and suggested reading.